(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) During the period from 1st January, 1990 to 15th February, 1991, the Income-tax Department conducted 821 searches in Delhi. In the course of these searches besides incriminating books and documents, *prima facie* unaccounted assets of the value of Rs. 25.21 crores, including cash of Rs. 4.50 crores, jewellery worth Rs. 6.36 croes and other assets valued at Rs. 14.35 crores were seized.

(c) Scrutiny of books of accounts and documents seized and follow-up action as called for under the Income-tax Act have been taken up in each case.

Setting up Food Processing units in Orissa

1082. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa is lagging far behind several States in Food Processing Industries;

(b) whether there is a great scope to set up Food Processing units particularly Fruits and Vegetable processing industries in the State;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to set up such units in Orissa State; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) It is true that the food processing industry in Orissa, as in several other States, is underdeveloped. The Ministry if Food Processing Industries do not directly set up food processing units. It can, however, assist a State Government in setting up such industries either through a State public sector undertaking or in the Joint/assisted sector. The State Government have been advised to explore possibilities of setting up such units and to submit proposals for assistance from the Ministry.

Loss in production of jute goods due to strike in West Bengal

1083. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total loss of production of jute goods and other goods in West Bengal due to strike on the 6th February, 1991;

(b) whether the workers will get their pay for that day; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) It is estimated that 4100 tonnes of jute goods valued at Rs. 5.5 crores were lost by the jute industry on account of stoppage of work for a day.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, workers in the jute industry generally work on 'no work no pay' basis.

Setting up of Silk Work Seed Technology Laboratory in Andhra Pradesh

1084. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the World Bank assistance plan for National Sericulture Project, the Central Silk Board has proposed to establish a Silkworm Seed Technology Laboratory at Maranapalle in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Silk Board had identified 30.00 acres of land in Mandanapalle town of Chittoor District for the purpose;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recently the Central Silk Board have desired to shift the laboratory to Karnataka; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Under the National Sericulture Project (NSP) a Silkworm Seed Technology Laboratory is proposed to be set up by the Central Silk Board (CSB). Among others, Madanapalle in Andhra Pradesh was one of the places being considered for locating this laborary. The Central Silk Board had constituted a Scientific Committee for recommmending the locations of the various Institutes proposed to be established under NSP This Committee considered the matter in detail and recommended locating the said Laboratory at Kodathi in Karnataka.

Hike in news prinf price by State Trading Corporation

1085. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of imported newsprint has been hiked recently by the State Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the increase; and

(c) whether the newspaper owners have protested against the increase?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b) The release prices of newsprint for each quarter are fixed by the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on which STC is only a Member.

The level of release prices for the fourth quarter January—March, 1991, as compared to the prices for the preceding quarter(s), are slightly higher due to the progressive increase in the prevailing international prices, as also Dollar-Rupee rate parity fluctuations, etc., especially on imports from General Currency Area.

(c) The President, All India Small and Medium Newspapers Federation who is a non-official member of the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee had submitted his resignation from the Membership of the Committee in protest against the Committee's decision on price fixation of imported newsprint for the quarter January—March 1991.

Seizure of HMT watch components

1086. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs have recently seized many consignments of watch components bearing HMT markings; and

(b) if so, the details thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Acting on intelligence, the Officers of Customs of Bangalore Collectorate searched the factory/office/godown premises of various units of M/s. HMT Ltd. located in and around Bangalore on 26th, 27th, 30th and 31st October and 29th November, 1990. During the search, wrist watch parts and components of foreign origin worth approximately Rs. 1,09,21,210 which had been imported by various parties located in Bangalore, Bombay and Navsari (Gujarat) and reportedly sold to M/s. HMT Limited in contravention of the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and rules and notifications issued thereunder and certain documents were seized.